

**REMARKS**

Entry of the amendment instructions presented herewith and favorable reconsideration of this application are requested.

Applicants appreciatively note the Examiner's allowance of claims 35-39. Claims 1-34 have thus been cancelled.

The improper dependency of claim 40 has been corrected so it is dependent on allowed independent claim 35 and thus should likewise be in condition for allowance.

Claims 41 – 44 are new and depend directly or indirectly from allowed independent claim 35. In this regard, claims 41 and 42 are based on subject matter which was inserted via amendment into the prior version of independent claim 1. Claims 43 and 44 are based on the prior versions of claims 26 and 27, respectively, but of course depend ultimately from independent claim 35 instead.

It is believed that, upon entry of the amendment instructions above, this application will be in condition for prompt allowance. Thus, entry of this amendment under the provisions of Rule 116 is believed to be in order since only allowed claims and newly presented claims dependent from such allowed claims will then remain pending in this application.

Should any minor issue remain, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the applicants' undersigned attorney so that the same may be resolved without the need for an additional written action and reply. Otherwise, early receipt of the Official Allowance Notice is awaited.

**DEY et al**  
**Serial No. 09/993,908**  
September 16, 2004

Such favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bryan H. Davidson', written over a horizontal line.

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